How to Set Up and Connect Your 1st Generation Echo Dot

Note: You will need to have the Alexa app installed on your phone. Also note that these instructions are for the iOS version of the Alexa app.

How to Tell What Generation Echo Dot You Have

The original Echo Dot was introduced in 2016, followed quickly by the 2nd-gen dot. Since then, Amazon has released new versions of the Echo Dot roughly every two years.

The easiest way to tell whether your Echo Dot is 1st-generation or 2nd generation is by looking at the top of it.





All of the 3rd-gen and on Echo Dots have fabric of some sort on their body. Only the 1st-gen and 2nd-gen Dots are fully hard-bodies.

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Note: Do *not* put your Dot into set-up mode yet. The easiest way to cause your Dot to go into set-up mode is to plug it in, so keep it unplugged for now.

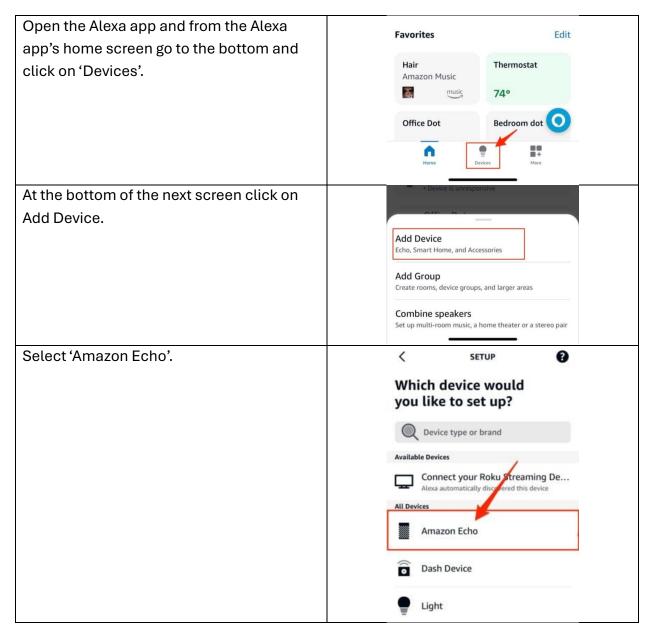
Some recommend de-registering and then re-registering your Echo Dot. I haven't seen that be necessary as the only owner.

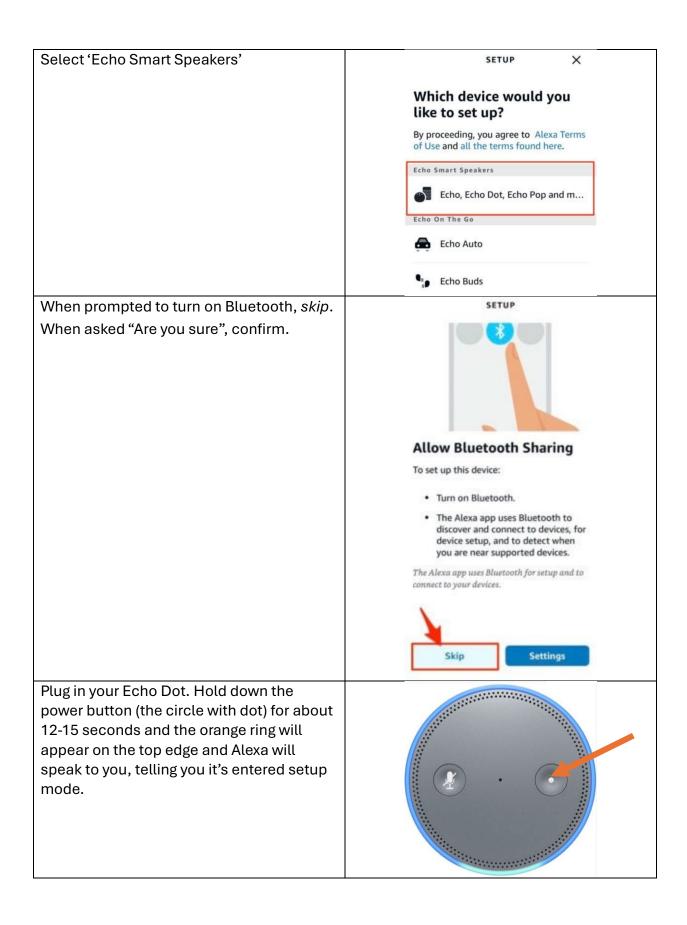
Turn Off Bluetooth on Your Phone

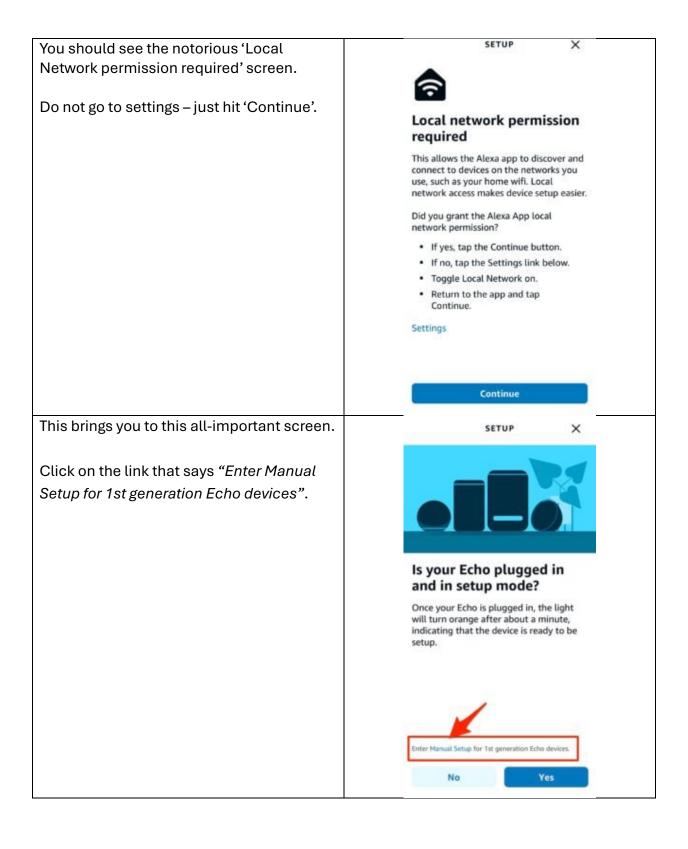
The Alexa app uses Bluetooth to discover nearby devices, however it won't discover your 1st-gen Echo Dot for some reason, so it will just spin and spin. So, yes, turn off Bluetooth before going any further.

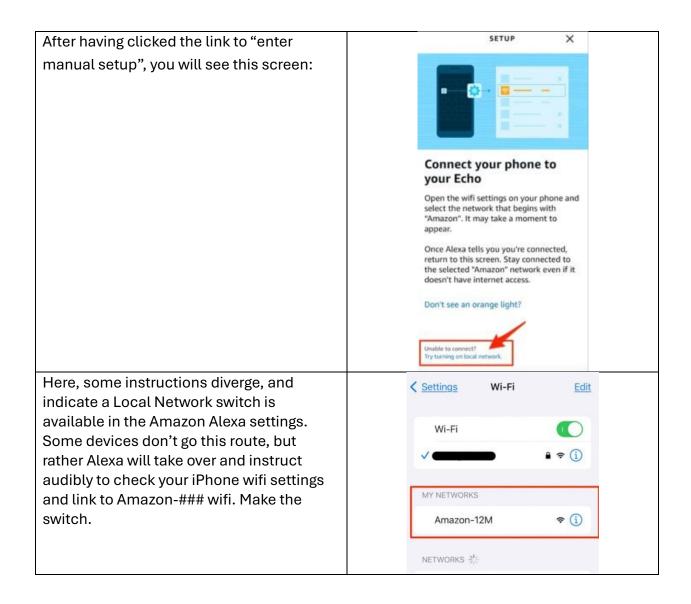
Open the Alexa App on Your Smartphone

As mentioned at the outset, you need to have the Alexa app installed on your smartphone. You cannot do this without the Alexa app.









Things will spin a bit, the Alexa will announce connected, and a prompt will appear on the iPhone to return to select the main/actual WiFi network. From there you just need to wait while the app finishes setting up your Echo Dot. You will likely see these screens:



In the Alexa App Version 2.2.648333, the 1st Generation Echo Dot shows the device **in the Devices list** as "Device is unresponsive". For others, they observe their 1st-gen Echo Dot always shows as 'offline' (in year 2024). But as far as the device goes, it's responsive to voice commands and works just fine.

If you have a speaker group setup, and the device is in the group, it shows "Online – {name of local WiFi network}", and will participate in your Group command.